

**REMARKS**

This amendment is submitted under 37 CFR §1.312 following the mailing of a Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due in this case, and concurrently with payment of the issue fee due January 8, 2004.

Claims 4-8, 11, 12, 16-19, 22, and 28-31 are allowed in this application and have been renumbered by the Examiner as Claims 1-16. Applicant requests renumbering of the claims as shown in this amendment, which follows the claim format guidelines provided in M.P.E.P § 608.01(m). Independent Claim 28 has been renumbered as Claim 1 followed by its corresponding dependent claims. Independent Claim 29 has been renumbered as Claim 9 followed by its corresponding dependent claims.

In addition, Claims 28 and 29 have been amended to correct minor grammatical form of the claims prior to issuance.

In the specification, the claim of priority has been amended under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 to provide the proper relationship between this pending application and International Application No. PCT/US99/30089 in adherence with the guidelines in M.P.E.P. § 201.11.

Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. Please direct any calls in connection with this application to the undersigned at (415) 781-1989.

Respectfully submitted,  
DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

Dated: 1/8/04

By: 

~~Todd A. Lorenz, Reg. No. 39,754~~

Filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.34(a)

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